



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Charles J. Winslow et al.

Examiner: Julian W. Woo

Serial No.: 08/889,661

Group Art Unit: 3309

Filed: July 8, 1997

Docket: 203-1782 CON (1791 CON)

For: OPEN POSTERIOR LUMBAR
FUSION CAGE INSERTION SET

Dated: December 21, 1998

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 9, 1998, please amend the application as set forth hereinbelow.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for performing a surgical procedure, comprising the steps of:

providing a surgical retractor including an elongate member defining a longitudinal axis, the elongate member including proximal and distal end portions and

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 21, 1998.

Dated: December 21, 1998

Joseph W. Schmidt

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